Abstract

An immunotherapeutic vaccine providing antigen presenting cells that have been pulsed with a disrupted cell preparation which includes enucleated cytosol and cell membranes of cancer cells infected with a recombinant vaccinia virus encoding at least one immunostimulating molecule. In a preferred embodiment, the vaccine includes autologous dendritic/monocytic cells (DC/M) that present a mixture of antigens (present in the enucleated cytosol and cell membranes) from melanoma cell lines that have been infected with a recombinant vaccinia virus encoding IL-2. In another of the preferred embodiments, the enucleated cytosol and cell membranes are from melanoma cells harvested from the patient to be treated. A method of making the vaccine and methods of using the vaccine to stimulate an anti-cancer immune response and to treat a patient with a cancer are also described.

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